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Message Text

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17
ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 NEA-14 IO-14 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08

L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20

CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01

SP-03 FEA-02 OMB-01 SWF-02 AF-10 ARA-16 OIC-04 SAM-01

DRC-01 /250 W
---------- 067883
R 171730Z MAY 74
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5853
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAG: GATT, ETRD
SUBJECT: GATT WORKING PARTY ON EC-EGYPT AGREEMENT

REF: A. STATE 10097
B. CAIRO 3224
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BEGIN SUMMARY: U.S., JAPAN, CANADA MADE LOW-KEY CASE
THAT GATT COMPATIBILITY OF EC-EGYPT AGREEMENT CANNOT BE
ESTABLISHED AT THIS TIME. EGYPT REP PRIVATELY STATED HIS SATISFACTION
WITH CONDUCT AND RESULTS OF MEETING. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING MAY 17 MEETING OF GATT WORKING PARTY ON EC-EGYPT
AGREEMENT, U.S. (SPRUCE) MADE POINTS ON FAILURE OF AGREEMENT
CONFORM TO GATT ARTICLE XXIV CRITERIA AS INSTRUCTED PARAS 2 AND
3 REFTEL (A). JAPAN AND CANADA SUPPORTED WITH SIMILAR PRESENTATIONS.
GREECE, SPAIN, TURKEY, TUNISIA, YUGOSLAVIA, CYPRUS, FINLAND FELT
AGREEMENT COMPLIED WITH GATT REQUIREMENTS FOR INTERIM AGREEMENT
WITHIN CONTEXT ARTICLE XXIV. EC (ABBLTT) SAID AGREEMENT
WAS PART OF GENERAL WORLD TREND TOWARD REGIONAL ECONOMIC ARRANGEMENTS,
WHICH
NOT SOLELY CONFINED TO AREAS WHERE EC HAS INTERESTS. JAPAN
QUESTIONED WHETHER TREND WAS WORLD-WIDE AND U.S. AND CANADA
SUPPORTED. CANADA OBSERVED THAT ONLY COUNTRIES HAVING
ARRANGEMENTS SIMILAR TO EC-EGYPT AGREEMENT HAD SUPPORTED
AGREEMENT IN THIS WP. AUSTRALIA ASKED MINOR QUESTIONS BUT DID NOT
COMMENT ON GATT-COMPATIBILITY.

2. ON MAY 16 WE INFORMED FIRST SECRETARY OF EGYPTIAN MISSION
(SALEM) OF U.S. POSITION AND REASONS, PER PARA. 4 OF REF (A). SLAEM
SAID HE UNDERSTOOD AND APPRECIATED REASONS FOR U.S. TO MAINTAIN SAME
GENERAL APPROACH AS IN WPS ON OTHER SIMILAR AGREEMENTS. IMMEDIATELY
PRIOR TO MEETING HE SAID HE HAD REPORTED INTENDED U.S. APPROACH TO HIS

AMBASSADOR, WHO HAD BEEN PLEASED. AFTER WP, U.S. REP TALKED WITH
SALEM AGAIN, AND HE WAS HAPPY WITH CONDUCT AND RESULTS OF WP, WHICH
HE OBSERVED COMPLETED IN RECORD TIME, AND HE REPEATED APPRECIATION
FOR ROUTINE LOW-KEY U.S. APPROACH. ABRAMS

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